



***Environmental Laboratory***

***Licensure Services***

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## **Information Update**

**January 30, 1996**

**Update #23**

1. Notice received from Robert L. Graves, Chief, National Water Quality Assurance Programs Branch, Ecological Exposure Research Division:

"Due to the government shutdown, the schedule for WP035 has been revised as follows:

February 26, 1996 Deadline for receipt of data from participants at NERL - Cincinnati.

April 8, 1996 Individual laboratory reports mailed to the USEPA study coordinators and some State coordinators.

Please notify the laboratories for which you are responsible."

2. Technical Notes on DW Methods, October 1994- Section IV, Mandatory Method Modifications, Page 30, describes an important safety warning when using sample digestion procedures that are described in SM 3114B (R12). Determination of arsenic and selenium by gaseous hydride atomic absorption requires digestion of the sample prior to analysis. SM 3114B describes two digestion procedures. One procedure, referred to as the "total recoverable" preparation, uses perchloric acid in the final stage of digestion. This **Perchloric acid digestion procedure is not required by EPA, and should be avoided**, because of potential danger when using perchloric acid, and because a special fume hood is required. When using method 3114B, the digestion procedure described in paragraph 4.d, *preparation of samples and standards for total arsenic and selenium*, specifies that sulfuric acid and potassium persulfate should be utilized. This warning is not applicable to the ASTM gaseous hydride methods for arsenic and selenium, because the methods do not allow the use of perchloric acid digestion.
3. The Technical Resources and Training Office will be facilitating a round table discussion on Inorganic and Microbiology methods. Some of our surveyors from the Environmental Licensure section as well as staff from State Laboratory will be available to answer questions and clarify problem areas via this session. There is no set agenda, it is a question and answer session. This will be held on Friday, February 9, 1996, from 1:30 - 3:30 pm, at 3443 North Central, in the 9th floor conference room. We request that laboratories fax questions to us prior to this date, in case we need to contact the EPA for further clarification. The areas to be covered are the approved methods, quality control, trouble shooting and maintenance of instrumentation or anything else about which you have questions. Please fax your questions to Prabha Acharya at 255-1070. This forum is NOT ONLY limited to questions sent before hand. Our training room can hold up to 35 people, so please RSVP with Charmaine D'Souza at 255-3454, if you are planning on attending.

4. **REMINDER:** The **FREE** seminar on "Laboratory Waste Disposal" is scheduled for February 7, 1996 at 3443 North Central, 9th floor conference room, from 9:00 am - 11:30 am. This seminar will comprise of, an overview of the RCRA regulations governing laboratory waste, laboratory waste streams and examples, laboratory waste disposal, laboratory packing and documentation. This will be presented by Linda Johnson, Dan Casiraro and Von Wilkin of the Salt River Project laboratory. We still have a few spaces available, if you are interested in attending, please contact Charmaine D'Souza at 255-3454.
5. Please note that we will not be validating any parking. There is a parking fee to park in our building lot.
6. For 600 series EPA Methods which require separatory funnel extraction, it is permissible to substitute it with liquid-liquid continuous extraction.
7. Following is a "training needs assessment" for an Inorganic Chemistry workshop. Please fill out this form and fax it to us, so we can design a workshop that will meet your needs:

Dear Laboratorian:

The Arizona State Laboratory Services is planning a comprehensive workshop in "**Inorganic Chemistry**". This workshop will be held in the summer of 1996. We are requesting input from the laboratories on the topics of interest and areas of concern that can be addressed through this training program.

Please respond to the following questions:

- A. List the specific **Inorganic Chemistry** methods that you would like covered at this workshop. What precise area of this method is of interest to you, e.g., quality control, standard operating procedure, matrix effects, etc.
- B. Which instruments would you like us to include. Please specify, e.g., set up, maintenance, trouble shooting, etc.
- C. List any other relevant topics of interest. Please be as detailed as possible about this topic.
- D. Check the box that best describes your need:

Training type for the above:

IN-DEPTH

GENERAL

Length of Training:

½ day

One day

Two days

- E. Would you be interested in a one day workshop on the ICP? This would cover hardware, maintenance, trouble shooting, tips and techniques.

YES NO

Please fax or mail your responses to :  
Charmaine D'Souza at (602) 255-1070 or mail to:  
Office of Laboratory Licensure, Certification & Training  
3443 North Central Avenue, Suite 810  
Phoenix, AZ 85012

The deadline for receipt of this questionnaire is February 29, 1996. **Please note:** All responses **after the deadline** will not be considered due to the lead time necessary for the preparation of this workshop.

*THIS MESSAGE AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT UPON REQUEST, BY CONTACTING: Wesley Press AT (602) 542-0357*

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